

DESERT AIRMAN

Vol. 64 Issue 28

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

Friday, July 22, 2005



Photo by Airman 1st Class Veronica Pierce

Trying it on for size

Pararescueman Tech. Sgt. Paul Schultz, 306th Rescue Squadron, greets his son, Paul, Jr. at the drop zone after performing a routine High Altitude Low Opening jump training here at Davis-Monthan. The 306th RQS is part of the 943rd Rescue Group, an active reserve unit based at Davis-Monthan.

D-M Airman gets Air Force Times Airman of year

Story and photo by 1st Lt. Beth Tucker
355th Wing Public Affairs

Man against nature is the only way to describe the job of Tech. Sgt. Paul Walker and other weather forecasters assigned to the 355th Operations Support Squadron.

Sergeant Walker has successfully tracked and predicted 88 percent of his forecasts for D-M.

Competing against all other Airmen in the Air Force for the 2005 Air Force Times Airman of the Year award wasn't much of a contest for Sergeant Walker. His record of weather predictions and success as an Airman sets him above the rest.

"If I do my job the way I'm supposed to be doing it, that's great," he said.

But Sergeant Walker has shown he stands above many with other awards such as the 2004 355th Wing NCO of the year and the NCO Weather Forecaster of the Year for Air Combat Command.

While at the NCO Academy, he said he was surprised to receive an e-mail from his superintendent at the weather shop.

See **Year**, Page 4

Airman leaves behind family after tragic drowning accident

Senior Airman Brandy Dupper-Macy
355th Wing Public Affairs

During a memorial service here July 14, the Davis-Monthan community said farewell to one of their fellow Airmen.

Airman 1st Class Charlie Peterson, 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, died June 30 while fishing with his brother, Boyd, 13, and cousin, Levi, 22, at Spirit Lake, Iowa.

Peterson was scheduled to be home

on leave for 30 days in Bennington, Neb.

"He came home and started talking about going fishing, Kay and I both told him to go ahead, have fun, since they'll be time to visit with us later," said Dan Peterson, Charlie's father. "We thought there was plenty of time for that. And there wasn't."

On the second day, they left to go fishing.

"They started fishing in the right place," Dan said. "They had a wind

break of about 20 feet and trees above for wind break. And they were fishing along the shore side with the anchors down, but with the smooth gravel bottom, the boat still drifts a little bit. And all of a sudden, they drifted into rough water. They were trying to move back to the smoother water again."

"We went out and we started taking on a little bit of waves," Boyd said. "So, we started coming back (to shore). The boat was taking on (water) and it started going down after

about a foot of water was in there and it capsized. The life jacket floated out and Levi went to get it. And Charlie said, 'we have to go get Levi, we have to go get Levi.' He yelled it like three times. And then, we started swimming and I started going a little bit faster than Charlie. He started turning back, and I don't know why, I think it was to get the other life jacket, and then that was it. That's all I remember (of Charlie)."

See **Airman**, Page 5

The Davis-Monthan Air Force Base timeline of sorties as of Monday

Squadron	Required	Flown	Annual	Squadron	Required	Flown	Annual
41st ECS	1,187.1	1,190.0	1,433.0	162nd OSB	1,537.6	1,617.8	2,135.0
43rd ECS	1,743.3	1,706.6	2,039.4	354th FS	8,422.5	8,481.7	9,981.0
55th RQS	2,386.9	2,218.3	2,880.0	357th FS	7,060.0	7,164.9	8,966.0
79th RQS	1,362.0	1,301.1	1,680.0	358th FS	7,238.0	7,072.9	9,148.0

Desert Airman survey

The **Desert Airman** wants to know what the Desert Lightning Team thinks about the paper. Log on to, www.afnews.af.mil/internal/survey/survey_index.htm to take the survey July 15 through Aug. 15. The survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte

Col. Michael Spencer, 355th Wing commander (right), congratulates Col. Steven Ruehl, 355th Operations Group outgoing commander, on his final flight July 15.

Dog Park on D-M

Concern: Would it be possible to establish a dog park on base?

Response: Thank you for your concern about the morale of our community on Davis-Monthan. This is a great idea and you brought it to our attention at a perfect time. Currently, the Civil Engineer Squadron is working with the Services Squadron to rejuvenate Bama Park. We are planning to expand the park and make it a more usable resource for our community. In fact, a dog park is part of the master plan. Funding is the limiting factor and I am reviewing a number of options that will allow us to add to the facilities that make D-M a benchmark installation.

For more information, contact 1st Lt. T.J. Fryar, 355th Civil Engineer Squadron, at 228-3809.

Vehicle stickers

Concern: I was wondering why we can no longer obtain vehicle stickers at the main gate. They were issued there for a while and it really helped. Due to a windshield replacement, I had to stop and get a temporary vehicle pass on a Saturday. I was told I would have to come back in and re-register to get my vehicle sticker. Why is this?

Response: Thank you for your question. Base vehicle decals were issued at the Visitor's Center in the past. However, long lines were forming at the center because of the time it takes to process vehicle decals. This resulted in numerous complaints by visitors trying to get a visitors pass. A decision was made to move the decal issuing section back to Pass and Registration. We find it is best to keep the visitors pass solely in the Visitor's Center and the issuance of decals in Pass and Registration.

Supporting each other and working together to provide the best programs and services is a goal for all D-M people. Ideas, suggestions and kudos are important to make improvements. The best way to pass along a comment or to get an answer to a concern is to contact the agency chief or functional managers listed here. Still no solution? The Commander's Corner phone line is 228-4747. An e-mail can also be sent to: 355thWing.CommandersCorner@dm.af.mil. Callers must leave their name, phone number and a message. We will honor caller confidentiality. If a concern is of general interest to the base populace, the response may be published in the *Desert Airman*. Anonymous calls may not be published.

Agency numbers

AAFES Agencies.....	228-3904	Inspector General.....	228-3558
Accounting and Finance.....	228-4964	Legal.....	228-6432
Chaplain.....	228-5411	Lodging.....	228-4845
Civil Engineering.....	228-3401	Military and Civilian Equal	
Clinic.....	228-2930	Opportunity Office.....	228-5509
Commissary.....	228-3116	Military Personnel.....	228-5689
Family Support.....	228-5690	Public Affairs.....	228-3204
Fitness and Sports Center.....	228-0022	Security Forces.....	228-6178
Haaffner Fitness Center.....	228-3714	Services.....	228-5596
Housing Office.....	228-3687	Transportation.....	228-3584

101 Critical Days

Summer is a busy season for travelers. While traveling by car during the summer months, it is important to keep safety in mind.

Wearing a seatbelt when traveling anywhere in an automobile, regardless of distance, is crucial.

Consider the following statistics before making a decision to not buckle a seat belt:
 ♦ Eighty percent of all traffic fatalities happen within 25 miles of home and under 40 miles per hour.

♦ Seatbelts help lower the chance of a person being ejected from a car. People thrown from cars are 25 percent more likely to be killed.

♦ Each year, 40,000 people die in car accidents. About half of these could have been prevented by wearing a seatbelt.

♦ Car accidents are the leading cause of death of people under the age of 35.

♦ An accident at 30 mph has the same impact as a fall from a three story-window.

♦ During 2004, Air Combat Command had 14 vehicle-related fatalities. Of those 14, seven were not wearing seat belts.

You may be a great driver, but what about the driver of the car that might hit you?

(This information is courtesy of the 355th Wing Safety Office and Air Combat Command.)

Team D-M Mission Spotlight



The 355th Communications Squadron "Co-bras" provide combat-ready communications, computer, network, visual information and information management services to the 355th Wing, 12th Air Force and the Davis-Monthan community. Some 180 members support the wing's warfighting mission and are responsible for deployment support of the wing's Air and Space Expeditionary Force mission. Their mission is to maximize the warfighter's ability to attain global information and decision superiority by providing robust, reliable and secure communications, information and airfield systems.

Staff Sgt. Russell Fairbanks (left), 355th Communications Squadron helps Senior Airman Chris Elkins, 355th CS, set up a large voice module promina multiplexer.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle

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DESERT AIRMAN

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Photos by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte

Col. Steven Ruehl, 355th Operations Group commander, taxis in after his final flight at Davis-Monthan July 13.

355th OG commander's last flight at D-M

Col. Steven Ruehl, 355th Operations Group commander, hugs his wife, Mary, while their son Scott sprays them with water after his final flight at Davis-Monthan in an A-10 July 13. In addition to his wife and son, his daughter, Sarah, also came to support him. During Colonel Ruehl's career, he flew 3,500 sorties in the A-10. Colonel Ruehl's next assignment is to Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii.

Colonel Ruehl relinquished command of the 355th OG to Col. Mark Koechle July 15.



Davis-Monthan major selects

Congratulations to the following captains who were selected for promotion to the rank of major:

355th Medical Operations Squadron: Mary Floyd and Virginia Mushenski; and **Air Force Institute of Technology**, Tempe, Ariz.: Kristin Kalina.

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Airmen were saved from the consequences of driving under the influence by the Airmen Against Drunk Driving Program since Dec. 31. Individuals interested in volunteering should contact Airman 1st Class Logan English, AADD scheduler, at 228-6674.

Call AADD at
850-2233

Friday and Saturday from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. For more information regarding AADD, see the Web site <https://aadd> on the D-M intranet.



Emergency Numbers

Ambulance.....	911	Base Operations.....	228-4315
Casualty Assistance.....	228-3686	Mortuary Officer.....	228-5964 or 4414
(After duty hours).....	228-3121	(After duty hours).....	228-3121
Duty Chaplain.....	228-5411	Command Post.....	228-7400
(After duty hours).....	228-3517	355th Security Forces Crime Stop.....	228-4444
Fire Reporting.....	911	Safety.....	228-5558
Public Affairs.....	228-3204	(After duty hours).....	909-0316
(After duty hours).....	228-7400	Base locator.....	228-3347
Fraud Waste and Abuse.....	228-3177	TIPS Line.....	228-TIPS (8477)

News Notes

12th Air Force command chief retirement ceremony today

Everyone from the D-M community is invited to attend a retirement ceremony for Chief Master Sgt. Michael L. Lane, 12th Air Force command chief, at the Mountain View Conference Center today at 3 p.m.

Craycroft Road lane closure

Due to construction, northbound traffic is re-routed on Craycroft Road into the middle/left turn lane from north of Granite Street to just south of the entrance into Burger King. This prohibits left turns of northbound traffic into the service station and credit union. The lane is expected to remain closed through the first week of August.

Temporary road closure

As part of the new C-130 Squadron operations project, a portion of Herky Road will be closed to all traffic starting Tuesday until further notice. There will be a detour through the 55th Electronic Combat Group parking lot for access to Building 140 and the Whiskey Ramp Entry Control Point. Detour signs will be installed to direct traffic around this work area. For more information, contact 1st Lt. Mary Rudy, 355th Civil Engineer Squadron, at 228-2304.

DRMO turn-ins

Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office turn-in will be by appointment only as of Monday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call DSN 228-8014 or commercial (520) 228-8014.

Claims for or against estate

Any person or persons having claims for or against the estate of Airman 1st Class Charles Richard Peterson, assigned to the 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, should contact 1st Lt. Jeffrey Baldwin, Summary Court Officer, at 228-8655.

Optometry clinic

Due to decreased manning, optometry appointments will be limited for those not empaneled at the Military Treatment Facility. If the individuals Primary Care Manager is off-base, ocular needs will be met via a network optometrist. For more information or to make an appointment, contact the optometry clinic at 228-2737.

Terrorism history

July 23, 1983, the killing of 13 Sri Lankan soldiers in an ambush by Tamil militants touched off widespread anti-Tamil violence that left 400 Tamils dead and 100,000 homeless.

Housing Privatization

New houses underway for D-M Airmen

By Senior Airman
Brandy Dupper-Macy
355th Wing Public Affairs

In an effort to improve military housing, many installations are privatizing housing.

"Under privatization, a developer takes over ownership and management of military family housing and uses private capital to renovate and construct housing units as part of a contract with the Air Force," said Richard Whitaker, 355th Civil Engineer Squadron housing privatization manager. "The contract also requires the developer to operate and maintain the housing units according to Air Force standards."

Davis-Monthan will privatize homes to provide troops and their families with safe, high quality, affordable and well-maintained housing, said Clarence Duran, 355th Civil Engineer Squadron housing element chief.

"Currently, the D-M project team is putting together the structure and facts of the final contract based on local needs and Air Force and Department of Defense requirements," Mr. Whitaker said. "The project concept has been approved by both the Air Staff and the Office of the Secretary of Defense, prerequisites before officials at D-M can award the privatization contract."

Davis-Monthan is estimated to start privatizing housing in July 2006. When that starts, the contractors will be busy renovating and building new homes.

"The Air Force will lease about 387 acres of land to a developer for 50 years and convey the existing housing units to the developer," Mr. Whitaker said. When this happens, the developer will construct 606 new housing units. Houses built since 2000 are currently being renovated and will be conveyed as-is; the remaining 123 units will be renovated by the developer. The developer will demolish 946 units that cannot be renovated or are surplus. D-M's final on-base housing inventory will include 929 units.

When the project is complete, military families may choose to spend their basic allowance for housing as full payment to live in privatized housing, or seek housing elsewhere in the Tucson area, Mr. Whitaker said.

"The vision is to provide quality and more livable housing for the next 50 years while maintaining an excellent level of services to military members and their families," said Mr. Michael Toriello, Deputy Base Civil Engineer. The assembled team at D-M are dedicated to achieving this vision.

Base residents urged to complete housing survey

WASHINGTON — An Air Force-wide base resident survey has been launched to determine the level of satisfaction of family housing residents at installations worldwide.

The survey provides base-housing residents and housing managers an opportunity to respond to survey questions regarding housing facilities and services delivered. At installations with privatized housing, property managers will also participate in the survey.

"We encourage all residents to complete their survey as soon as possible," said Maj. Gen. L. Dean Fox, the Air Force Civil Engineer. "The more participants we have, the more accurate our results will be and the greater emphasis we can place on making the recommended changes."

Stateside residents should have received their surveys in June, while overseas residents should receive surveys by late summer or early fall, officials said.

The survey is customized for Air Force residents and will take about five minutes to complete.

"Efforts to assess resident satisfaction have historically been undertaken at the installation level,"

said Col. Bob Griffin, Air Force Housing Division chief. "Using standardized surveys will allow us to make valid comparisons of the data collected. I encourage every Air Force family residing in government-owned or privatized housing to participate."

Each resident will be provided a pre-addressed, postage-paid envelope to return the survey.

Survey results are confidential and anonymous. The survey asks residents to respond to questions related to the physical property, services and management's performance. With the cooperation and candid responses by residents, the Air Force can collect important information that will be used to identify areas where improvements are required.

An executive summary of the survey results will be provided to senior leaders at the wing, major command and Air Staff levels and used as a basis for decisions regarding the Air Force's Military Housing Privatization Initiative, military construction needs and the future of family housing.



Tech. Sgt. Paul Walker, 355th Operations Support Squadron, observes the weather at Davis-Monthan.

Year

Continued from Page 1

He found out not only was he submitted for the Air Force Times award, but was also a finalist. In June, after completing the academy, his supervisor told him he was going to be interviewed by a reporter from the publication. When the interview day came, the 355th Operations Group commander, 355th Operations Support Squadron commander

and his supervisor were all in the room when he was told over speakerphone he was selected as the Airman of the Year.

"I didn't even know it existed," he said of the award, which he was honored with in Washington D.C.

The competitive nature of his personality led him to constantly want to learn more about the Air Force, weather, different parts of the world as well as being a leader.

Volunteering for three deployments and a remote tour to Korea has taught Sergeant Walker more than just forecasting.

"My motivation is to get better all the time and that comes from experience," Sergeant Walker said.

Experience of forecasting, being led and being a leader are driving him to reach his goals of finishing his bachelor's degree and being selected for Officer Training School by the end of the year. "The guidance and mentorship I've received is something I'd like to share with future Airmen," he said of his goal to become an officer or continue in the enlisted ranks to chief master sergeant.

The experience of accepting the award in Washington D.C. left an impression in Sergeant Walker's mind.

"Talk about going all out," he said of the stretch hummer limo to dinner one night, meeting the top leaders of all the services including the under sec-

retary of the Department of Defense and Senators John McCain and John Kerry.

"It's almost indescribable," Sergeant Walker said.

The advice he gives to younger Airmen hoping to one day be named the best in the Air Force is clear.

"Work hard and keep your supervisor informed of what you are doing and what you want to do," he said. The job is more about just the daily tasks, but also focuses on the challenge of "finding things that can be fixed or improved on and doing it. Talk to your supervisor and ask what you can do. There is always room for continuous improvement."

The 355th OSS weather shop is vital to the safety and lives of others. Within 41 minutes Monday evening, more than 160 lightning bolts hit the ground in the 10 to 15 mile radius around Davis-Monthan. Within seconds the condition changed and the storm moved in closer threatening Airmen and their safety. Within the first hour of his swing shift, Airmen's lives were saved with a few phone calls to issue the lightning within five mile warning.

Within his 12 year career, whether predicting and accurately reporting tornadoes or filling 20,000 sandbags to improve his unit's defense posture overseas, his healthy sense of competition has made an impact on many.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Christina Ponte

(From left to right) Dick Shepard, Boyd Peterson, Maria Peterson, Dan Peterson and Kay Peterson receive a folded flag from an honor guard member at a memorial service July 14 for Airman 1st Class Charlie Peterson, 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron. Airman Peterson died June 30 after a boating accident.

Airman

Continued from Page 1

"Charlie made sure Boyd got to Levi so that they could keep each other going," said Maria Peterson, Charlie's sister. "And he knew three of them couldn't use one life jacket."

"Each of the boys all worked together, because if any of them had done anything different, (Boyd) wouldn't be here," Dan said.

Levi and Boyd shared the life vest and tried to swim back to shore, but the waves made it impossible.

"They were in the water for two

hours before a fishermen found them," Dan said.

It was shortly after that Charlie's mom received the news of the accident.

"The police chief from Spirit Lake called the Omaha police department to notify me and then the Omaha police chaplain came to my work," said Kay Peterson, Charlie's mother. "And what they told me was, there was a boating accident, and Levi and Boyd were fine and Charlie was missing."

Charlie's mom, dad, brother, sister, aunts, nephews and cousins were all at the search area by the next day.

"We had quite a support group," Dan said. "We were lucky to have that type of support group, it's made it a lot easier."

"When (the boys) were rescued they dropped a marker point where they were to know where to start the search (for Charlie)," said Dick Shepard, Charlie's grandfather. "Then they found the boat and dropped another marker. They said using them and the point they started fishing, to the bait bucket (allowed them) to set up a 10 mile grid on a GPS locator."

The search went on for hours.

"Charlie was found about 10 yards outside of the search area," Dan said. "When one of the boats were turning around, they caught a glimpse on radar."

"My aunt called the military and they were a great help," Maria said. "They understood that my parents couldn't talk at the time and just talked to her."

People from Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., contacted the family to make funeral arrangements.

"We didn't have to worry about anything, they took care of everything," Kay said.

"They came to our house," Dan said. "It was a lot easier at the dining room table instead of an office or mortuary to talk about all this. They helped get us anything we wanted or needed."

The Peterson family said that it was not only in their hometown that they found support.

"We found out that we had an even



Courtesy photo

Airman 1st Class Charlie Peterson, 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron.

bigger (support group) out here," Dan said.

"When we called and told them that we were going to come down to this service, it was like they were so excited to have us come," Maria said. "It made us feel good to know that we were welcome."

The Peterson family said that coming out to D-M helped them a lot.

"It was nice to know that he had his own family here," Dan said. "There were so many people here that cared about him, and that he cared about as well."

Though the Peterson family has lost a loved one, they still remain optimistic.

"Thanks for everything the Air Force has done for us," Dan said. "It has made things a lot easier, more comforting and a lot more bearable. It was nice to know he was as happy here as he said he was."

CRIME & Punishment

Davis-Monthan Articles 15, discharges from July 5 through 15

◆ An airman first class assigned to the 355th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron was **discharged** with a general service characterization for **minor disciplinary infractions**, supported by three letter of reprimands, one letter of counseling and four records of individual counseling.

◆ A staff sergeant assigned to the 755th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron was **discharged** with an honorable service characterization for an **adjustment disorder**.

◆ A technical sergeant assigned to the 355th AMXS received a suspended reduction to staff sergeant, forfeitures of \$200 pay and seven days extra duty for **being disorderly and using in-**

decent language. These were violations of Article 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

◆ An airman basic assigned to the 355th Component Maintenance Squadron received restriction to D-M for 30 days for **vacating a suspended non-judicial punishment for failing to go to the extra duty flight**. This was a violation of Article 86 of the UCMJ.

◆ A senior airman assigned to the 355th Logistics Readiness Squadron received a suspended reduction to airman first class, forfeiture of \$300 pay and a reprimand for **failing to return from leave on time**. This was a violation of Article 86 of the UCMJ.

◆ A staff sergeant assigned to the 355th Operations Support Squadron received a suspended reduction to senior airman, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand for **failing to obey a lawful**

order. This was a violation of Article 92 of the UCMJ.

(Editor's note: Information courtesy of the 355th Wing Staff Judge Advocate Office. The same offense can result in different punishment for each offender. The offender's commander considers several factors when determining punishment, including the offender's service record and impact on unit discipline, cohesion and morale.)

Area Defense Counsel tip of the week

Did you know ... a commander has three different ways he can change an individual's non-judicial punishment under Article 15: mitigation, remission and set aside action. If you have questions, please contact the Area Defense Counsel at 228-5664.

Chaplains help servicemembers, Iraqi civilians through tough times

By Capt. DeJon Redd
355th Wing Public Affairs

Davis-Monthan Chaplain (Capt.) Duane McCrory entered the Air Force as a minister to help the hurting, and the most intense combat-casualty environment since Vietnam provided just such an opportunity.

Many deployed chaplains provide vital spiritual assistance to military members dealing with deployment hardships such as home sickness or tough family and marriage situations. Chaplain McCrory's deployed mission often found him in front of people in dire need of ministry facing life-changing physical and emotional setbacks.

During his Air and Space Expeditionary Force 3/4 deployment, this D-M chaplain witnessed events he said have left an unforgettable mark.

In the first four months of 2005, the personnel of Balad Air Base, Iraq often found themselves in the middle of world focus.

"One of my greatest days was the day of the Iraqi elections," said Chaplain McCrory. "Being so close to such a successful and history-making event meant a lot. It helped reinforce the reason we are in Iraq — to give the Iraqi people the freedoms we hold so dear."

Of course, ministering everyday in the largest deployed medical unit the Air Force has seen in 30 years forged many more somber but just as memorable moments.

"There were some very difficult days. But those were the days I felt my duties as a chaplain made the most significant contribution to both the patients and the entire medical staff," Chaplain McCrory said. "Sometimes it would get so busy that I would just help to move a patient; sometimes I would talk to the patients to keep them calm while the doctors were examining them and preparing them for surgery; many times I would pray with them for a successful surgery."

One doctor deployed with the D-M chaplain agreed.

"Chaplain McCrory proved himself an invaluable asset to the hospital at Balad," said Col. (Dr.) August Pasquale, Balad's AEF 3/4, senior ophthalmologist.

"Chaplain McCrory had a significant impact on the spiritual well-being of our patients and possibly their physical and mental outcomes as many of these troops faced the most significant challenges in their lives," Dr. Pasquale said.

Dr. Pasquale described one patient in particular.

"A U.S. troop came in with, among other injuries, a severe eye injury," he said. "My best preoperative assessment was this patient had a very tenuous prognosis and would likely lose his eye. I reassured the patient that I would do everything possible to save the eye. However, due to the severity of the injury I may need to remove the eye and replace it with a prosthesis. After my discussion with the patient the first words from his mouth



Courtesy photo

Chaplain (Capt.) Duane McCrory, 355th Wing chaplain, sends a message home from Balad Air Base, Iraq.

were 'Can I see a chaplain?' Chaplain McCrory was already on the scene as it was a mini-mass casualty and it was usual for him to be there just in case. As Chaplain McCrory ministered to the patient, we went directly to the operating room and were able to repair the eye rather than remove it. Upon awakening I informed the patient of the outcome and he immediately asked again for Chaplain McCrory."

"One thing I always try to do is reassure the patients that they are getting some of the finest treatment in the world. With this particular patient, I had seen many of the prior successes of Dr. Pasquale and was able with complete confidence to let the patient know that he was in very capable hands. He was a Christian soldier with a family and was worried about his future in the military and being able to provide for his family. I talked with him and prayed with him for a successful surgery. I have no doubt that prayer was answered," Chaplain McCrory said.

Chaplain McCrory spoke not only of his work and respect for the hospital's patients and staff, but for his host-nation brethren.

"I was amazed at the courage and friendly nature of the Iraqis whom I met in the hospital and around the base," the Phoenix native said. "The hospital staff treated just as many, if not more innocent Iraqi citizens. I was amazed by the grace and courage they showed in the face of such a dangerous situation."

While the D-M minister has since returned to his duties in the 355th Wing, lessons and memories from his time in Iraq remain.

"Since I've returned, there hasn't been a day that I don't pray for those in Iraq. I was honored to serve in such a time, and I'm proud of the work we were able to accomplish," he said.



Courtesy photo

A flag at half staff at Balad Air Base, Iraq.

Taking a few seconds to buckle up can save lives

By Senior Airman Amy Robinson
Air Combat Command Public Affairs

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. — One and a half seconds — that's all it takes.

Granted, for those who take their time, it may take about four seconds, but it's still roughly about the same amount of time it takes to turn the key and start the car.

People who take the extra couple of seconds to secure their seat belts can reduce their risk of injury or death, not only for themselves, but for others too.

So if it takes less than five seconds and it can save lives, why aren't people, more specifically, why aren't Airmen buckling up?

"It gets a little frustrating," said Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Ennis, Air Combat Command Safety Directorate's ground safety chief. "It's difficult for me to believe that people don't know the benefits of buckling up."

During 2004 in ACC, there were 14 vehicle-related fatalities, and in half of those fatalities, people weren't

Quick safety seat belt fact

◆ It is estimated that more than 14,000 lives have been saved with safety seat belt use in data compiled by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for 2002. And of the almost 33,000 passenger vehicle occupants who were killed during the same period, 59 percent weren't wearing a safety seat belt.

wearing seat belts. So far in 2005, there have been nine four-wheeled vehicle fatalities and one permanent disability. In seven of those cases, seat belts were not worn.

Chief Ennis said maybe some Airmen don't buckle up because they think it just won't happen to them. In an effort to help dispel that belief, he pointed to Memorial Day weekend where ACC lost two Airmen in a single day.

The first accident occurred at about 3 a.m. and involved four Airmen from Shaw Air Force Base, S.C. Three of the four Airmen — everyone but the driver — walked away from the accident. The driver was the only one not wearing his seat belt.

Two hours later, two Airmen at

Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., were involved in a car accident. Again, the driver wasn't wearing his seat belt, and died as a result of the accident — the passenger was wearing a seatbelt and suffered only minor injuries.

While none of the passengers in these accidents died, the chief stressed that passengers are also at risk of injury or death if they choose not to wear their seat belts.

Chief Ennis pointed to a case earlier this year where an Airman from Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, was riding in the back seat of a vehicle and suffered critical injuries in an accident. Because he wasn't wearing his seat belt, the force of the accident threw him from the vehicle. The accident left him

in a coma and ultimately resulted in his medical discharge from the Air Force.

"If you're not restrained in a vehicle, regardless of whether you're in the front or the back, you become a projectile," Chief Ennis said. "Even if you weren't ejected from the vehicle, can you imagine the force you would strike the front seat with?"

An unrestrained back seat passenger involved in a car crash at 30 miles per hour will fly into the front seats with a force that's 30 to 60 times the person's body weight, according to the Lancashire Partnership for Road Safety, a multi-agency partnership in the United Kingdom aimed at reducing the number of traffic casualties.

In fact, a study at the University at Buffalo, N.Y., refers to back-seat passengers as "back-seat bullets," that can slam into the driver, increasing not only the passenger's, but also the driver's risk of death.

"I don't understand why the word's not sinking in — seat belts do save lives, and I certainly am an advocate," Chief Ennis said. One and a half seconds — that's all.

So why aren't Airmen buckling up?

Personnel career field prepares for change

By Lt. Col. Cassie Barlow

355th Mission Support Squadron commander

If one thing has stayed constant in the Air Force over the past few years, it has been change. Airmen are finding themselves adapting to a new kind of enemy with new tactics. They are learning how to do more with less as the Air Force continues to downsize and they are finding it may not be as easy as it used to be to stay in the Air Force past their first enlistment. Those who do not adjust well to change are feeling a bit unsettled in our Air Force today. Everywhere you turn, change is occurring. At the forefront of some of the biggest changes is the personnel career field.

As the Air Force continues to shrink as an organization, our senior leaders have come to the realization that we aren't as efficient as we could be with our personnel processes. In the majority of Fortune 500 companies today, 90 percent of human resources processes are handled via the Internet or contact centers. The Air Force is taking the same direction in an effort to better serve our people and to save a lot of money. These changes will allow the Air Force to realign more dollars to directly support the war fighter in the field.

These efforts to transform our personnel services will take shape over the next few years and have already started to affect the way we deliver personnel services at the base level. If you have been around the Air Force for 15 years or more, you may have noticed the days of the Consolidated Base Personnel Office are long gone. As the 355th Mission Support Squadron commander, my job is to manage the personnel

changes implemented at Davis-Monthan and to ensure everyone is informed of the changes ahead.

I equate these changes in personnel services to the changes occurring in the banking industry. I remember watching my mother sit down with the checkbook once a month to pay all of the family bills. I would venture to say this is no longer an occurrence in most American households today. A child of this decade is witnessing their parents spend a lot of time on the family computer to do everything from ordering groceries to paying the monthly family bills. If nothing else, this type of banking offers an individual an extreme amount of flexibility. If you are a night owl and want to pay your bills at midnight, go right ahead — the Web site is available. In a similar manner, the ability to make changes to your military personal data at midnight, on a holiday or weekend, already exists via the Virtual Military Personnel Flight.

Very soon, the retirement and separation application requiring multiple visits to the Military Personnel Flight will be accomplished online, with only one visit to the MPF as the member completes their final outprocessing. Eventually, we will all be able to look up our records online — no more requesting a copy of our records from the Air Force Personnel Center — it will be at our fingertips.

Technology is obviously a key part of change and it will be a key part of transforming our personnel services in the Air Force. The role of the personnelist will be changing in the future to more of an advisory role to commanders at the unit level, with readiness at the forefront of the mission. As we all change into a more readiness-

focused mindset, individuals will take a more active role in their own personal business.

Lt. Gen. Roger Brady, Air Force deputy chief of staff for personnel, calls it, very appropriately, personnel hygiene. The way he describes it is, why would we allow someone else to ensure our records were complete before a promotion board — isn't it our record? He has taken to the road to encourage members to take a more proactive approach to their career by ensuring their personnel hygiene is in line. The Air Force is doing many things to assist members make this happen. We already have a 24-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-week contact center Air Force members can call and ask questions or take care of personnel issues. Over time, we will see more and more capability added to the contact center and to our online capabilities through the vMPF.

As the entire Air Force readies themselves for these changes to the personnel system, we are taking a proactive approach on D-M to ensure all members are aware of the latest changes. There are many ongoing activities including posters around the base, briefings at commander's calls and articles in the newspaper, to inform you of what is happening to our personnel system. You may have noticed there is now a "kiosk" in your orderly room where you can log into the vMPF to take care of personnel issues with a trained personnelist sitting right behind you.

I encourage you to keep your ear to the ground and be ready for change because it is here and more is on the way.

Our goal is to make it as smooth as possible for you, but we need your assistance to make that happen.

Personnel Transformation Briefings

Briefings will be offered Tuesday and Wednesday at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. in the Tucson Room at the Mountain View Conference Center. The briefings will inform Airmen on the transformation's current status, future changes and how to ease their transition. For questions, please call Chief Master Sgt. Sharon Turk at 228-4169 or Senior Master Sgt. Scott Wilson, both of the 355th Mission Support Squadron, at 228-4456.

Final Answer ————— If you were president, what would your first order of business be?



**Chief Master Sgt.
Jim Welker**
355th Comptroller
Squadron

"I would make sure we have enough troops to get the job done and they had everything they needed."



**Senior Airman
Rick Martinez**
355th Equipment
Maintenance Squadron

"I would make more time to visit troops."



**1st Lt. Nathan
VandeVeer**
41st Electronic
Combat Squadron

"I would vote Congress a pay cut and give it to the troops."



**Senior Airman
Jeremiah Roper**
355th Component
Maintenance Squadron

"I would try to bring as many troops home as possible while still being effective there."



**Maj.
Val Baker**
Joint Interoperability
Test Command,
Fort Huachuca

"I would work on securing America's borders."



**Senior Airman
Rene Gonzales**
355th Medical
Support Squadron

"I would take care of my citizens."

(Editors note: Next week's Final Answer question is: **"What makes a good NCO?"** If you would like to submit an answer for an upcoming edition of the Final Answer column, or would like to give new ideas, questions and suggestions for future Final Answer columns, please contact the **Desert Airman** staff at desert.airman@dm.af.mil or Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle at 228-5092. Any volunteers who submit answers must be available to take a picture for the use the newspaper during the same week.)



Photo by Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle

Lt. Col. Kevin Simmons (left), 43rd Electronic Combat Squadron commander, reviews aircraft maintenance forms with Airman 1st Class Andrew Green, 43rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit EC-130H Compass Call crew chief.

New 43rd ECS commander arrives

The 43rd Electronic Combat Squadron was activated at Davis-Monthan April 1, 1992. Using Compass Call aircraft, the squadron is vital to the Air Force's electronic warfare capabilities and is poised for immediate deployment. The unit's mission is to confuse the enemy's defenses by disrupting its command and control capabilities.

Lt. Col. Kevin Simmons assumed command July 7.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle

Col. Mark Koechle (left), 355th Operations Group commander, reviews his training accomplishment report at the 357th Fighter Squadron 'Dragons' duty desk with Airman 1st Class Lyden Maynes, 357th FS.

D-M welcomes new commander

The 355th Operations Group consists of six squadrons and 300 personnel employing 73 A/OA-10 aircraft and an AN/TPS-75 radar system. They also provide warfighters with forces for close air support, air interdiction, forward air control, combat search and rescue, ground-based tactical air control and airbase operations. They also conduct all formal course-directed aircraft initial qualification/requalification training.

Col. Mark Koechle assumed command July 15.



Sonoran Spotlight

(Editor's note: *Sonoran Spotlight* is a weekly feature of the **Desert Airman** that profiles a member — officer, enlisted or civilian — of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.)

This week's *Sonoran Spotlight* is Airman 1st Class Dena Jaques, 355th Equipment Maintenance Squadron. Airman Jaques is a EC-130H Compass Call isochronal inspection crew chief. According to her first sergeant, Chief Master Sgt. Samuel Hagadorn, she was nominated for the *Sonoran Spotlight* because she, "stands out among her peers as a go-getter who takes on tasks normally done by NCOs."

The following are Airman Jaques's responses to a variety of questions.

Name someone who inspires you and why: My mother of course. She has always been positive about any decision I have made and was the only one able to convince my father to let me go to basic training.

What are the best aspects of the job? Knowing what I do everyday helps save the lives of



Photo by Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle

the Airmen both at home station and deployed.

What is your most memorable moment in the Air Force? We had to stop work one day to help the Aircraft Maintenance and Regeneration Center pull a C-141 out of the mud. We had to dig the wheels out and turn the tires, but with the help of a tow truck, we got it out.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle

Lt. Col. Walter Fulda (left), 355th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander, and Senior Airman Vanessa Kyota, 355th LRS, review part of the 355th Wing commander's sight picture for Davis-Monthan.

355th LRS names new commander

The 355th Logistics Readiness Squadron directs all wing transportation, supply and logistics planning functions through a 499-person work force supporting A/OA-10, HC-130 and HH-60E combat-ready aircraft. They generate deployments, reception, planning, execution and manage equipment for storage.

Lt. Col. Walter Fulda assumed command July 6.



Courtesy photos

Airman 1st Class Edward Dalton, 612th Air Communication Squadron, jumps his mountain bike over a ditch near Davis-Monthan's golf course. Airman Dalton says he loves riding mountain bikes in Arizona because it offers every kind of trail a mountain biker could want.



Airman 1st Class Edward Dalton, 612th Air Communications Squadron, checks the trail behind him before pulling onto it. Mountain bikers must share trails with hikers, quads and off-road vehicles and other bikers.

Airmen experience Tucson terrain

By Airman 1st Class Clark Staehle
355th Wing Public Affairs

Because Tucson is situated in the desert and surrounded by mountains, it can be ideal for anyone who is an avid mountain biker.

There are many places around Tucson mountain bikers can indulge their sport. Mount Lemmon is nestled in the Santa Catalina mountains just north of Tucson. As the tallest peak in the mountain range, it offers many trails suitable for anyone who enjoys the outdoors. Another popular place close to Davis-Monthan is Paradise Island, located off Irvington Road, south of the base. Another popular spot with mountain bikers is Chivas Falls, which is located east of Tucson.

Mountain biking can give people an opportunity to get off the beaten path and explore their surroundings.

"You can go out and see things you would never see without a bike," said Airman 1st Class Edward Dalton, 612th Air Communications Squadron. "When you're (riding) down a trail, nothing else in the world matters."

For Airman Dalton, mountain biking is almost a way of life. The 20 year old said he has been biking for 14 years.

While the geographic areas in and around Tucson can accommodate mountain biking, it can be physically demanding activity, so extra caution should be taken, especially in the summer heat.

"Always go in a group and never alone," said Mike Barnes, 355th Wing ground safety manager. "Take water (and) food and let someone know where you are going and when you expect to be back. Avoid exposure to the hottest time of the day. Plan activities in early morning or late afternoon. Wear sunglasses, hat, sun block and appropriate clothing. Don't over exert yourself and keep hydrated."

Drinking plenty of water is necessary for your body to cool itself and keeping you from becoming incapacitated."

The area around Tucson offers a lot of natural wilderness and history that can't be found many other places. While exploring the local area, mountain bikers should take necessary precautions to stay safe under the Arizona summer sun.

A closer look at Airman Aces

By Capt. Tony Wickman

Alaskan Command

Public Affairs

Across

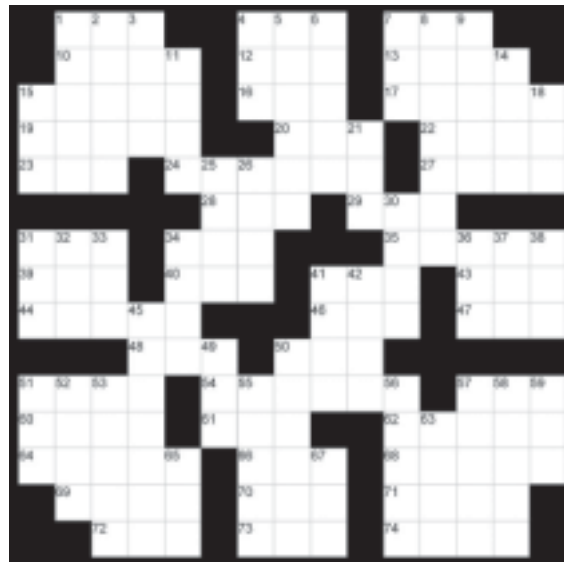
1. Mil. moving org.
4. Shade spot
7. Ship direction
10. Zeus' wife
12. Field movie *Norma* ____
13. Russian city
15. Funeral fires
16. Movie ____ *Given Sunday*
17. Busy
19. Gold bar
20. Animal lair
22. Indian tribe
23. Iron or Bronze
24. Prize
27. Latch
28. Greek goddess of dawn
29. Honest ____
31. Sum up
34. USAF reservist
35. Command
39. Female deer
40. Ask ____ what you can do..
41. Prohibit
43. A Gershwin
44. Roundtree role

46. USAF Total Force component
47. Jimmy open
48. Caviar
50. Coop denizen
51. Region
54. Emptied a jug
57. TV USN lawyer show
60. Southern state, in brief
61. USAF E-2
62. Slogan
64. Farthing
66. Greek letter
68. USAF F-16 nickname
69. Driving crimes
70. Acquire
71. Middle East country
72. AOL, NetZero, etc., in brief
73. Op or Surreal
74. Mailed

Down

1. Airman ace Col. Harrison R ____ (15)
2. Join together
3. After school snack
4. Epoch
5. Airman ace 1st Lt. Reed G. ____ (10)

6. Airman ace Lt. Col. John C. ____ (24)
7. Alias, in short
8. Airman ace Capt. Harold E. ____ (10)
9. Small tropical freshwater fish
11. Dog star
14. Competes
15. Singer Zadora
18. Dem.'s opponent
21. Teacher's org.
25. Brief musical recording
26. Castle protector
30. Airman ace Maj. Richard I. ____ (40)
31. Commercials
32. Homer's saying
33. Federal drug concern org.
34. Hepburn movie *Long Day's Journey ____ Night*
36. Immerse
37. Mistake
38. Airman ace Capt. ____ S. Wetmore (21.25)
41. Airman ace 1st Lt. Paul P. ____ (9)
42. Writer Rice
45. Airman ace Lt. Col. Francis S. ____ (34.5)



(The solutions for the crossword puzzle are on Page 27.)

49. Federal environment concern org.
50. Airman ace 1st Lt. Frank O. ____ (8)
51. Agassi org.
52. Bamboo
53. Boredom
55. Greek letter
56. Maj. George A. ____ Jr. (21)
57. Asian country
58. Player representative
59. Eur. country
63. Critical
65. Third eye
67. MCI competitor



Top: Tech. Sgt. Ricardo Legaspi, 355th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, performs a squat during the Boot Camp Class.

Right: Airmen participate in abdomen exercises during the Fitness Boot Camp Class, held at the Fitness and Sports Center Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6 to 7 a.m.



Base receives challenge to drop extra pounds

Story and photos by Stephanie Ritter
355th Wing Public Affairs

Attention all fat cells: a new enemy is coming to base. Its mission is simple; to help the D-M community achieve weight loss.

The Weight Loss Challenge will run from Aug. 1 through Oct. 31, said Cesar Vinueza, 355th Aerospace Medicine Squadron installation fitness program manager. "The purpose of the challenge is to encourage all participants to improve their overall health and fitness and, in the process, shed a few unwanted pounds."

The Weight Loss Challenge has been organized with a variety of levels to help the D-M community obtain their optimal level of fitness.

"To lose extra weight, (individuals) should to try to get involved in a well structured and organized exercise program that (they) can follow three to five days a week," Mr. Vinueza said. "It is also paramount that the individual follow a healthy diet in terms of eating the right types of foods, always eating in moderation and

staying away from too much sugar and foods with high caloric values. That combination will definitely help to reduce weight as long as the person is consistent and follows this simple suggestion for life."

Those who participate in the Weight Loss Challenge can enroll in optional nutrition classes.

The classes are for those interested in learning more about eating healthier, quantity control, types of food and more, Mr. Vinueza said.

In addition, the Weight Loss Challenge will include exercise sessions three days a week. The sessions will take place on the basketball court at the Fitness and Sports Center Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6 to 7 a.m.

"It will be a well rounded exercise program," Mr. Vinueza said. "The sessions basically cover all the components of fitness: cardiovascular and muscular fitness in addition to flexibility."

Members of the Weight Loss Challenge will join the Fitness Boot Camp Class currently being conducted at the fitness center. The Fitness Boot Camp Class was established as another way to help Airmen get 'Fit to Fight' and pass their physical training tests.

"I joined the class after I scored a 64 on my PT test," said Staff Sgt. Jessica Jolin, 355th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. "I was given mandatory PT and was

looking for something structured to help me improve my fitness."

Sergeant Jolin said when she joined the Fitness Boot Camp Class, she was surprised how easy it was to follow Mr. Vinueza's lead.

"He really mixes it up for each class so I never got bored with the class," Sergeant Jolin said. "He teaches people who are naturally athletic how to exercise properly and how to get fit."

After two months of the Fitness Boot Camp Class, Sergeant Jolin's PT score went from a 64 to an 81.

"I also lost 10 pounds, which would have been very hard to do on my own in only two months," Sergeant Jolin said.

With the Weight Loss Challenge, participants will have the opportunity to achieve a variety of rewards.

"The most important reward will be improving their overall health and fitness and losing weight," Mr. Vinueza said. "But in addition to this, prizes can range from key chains, sports towels and water bottles to t-shirts, athletic gym bags, heart rate monitors and more depending on the improvement category."

"When an individual sees and feels the benefits of a better level of health and fitness, they will wonder why they did not enroll in a program like this a long time ago," Mr. Vinueza said.

First priority for the Weight Loss Challenge will be given to active duty personnel. If space permits, the class is also open to reservists, dependents, retirees and Department of Defense civilian employees.

To sign up for the class, contact Mr. Vinueza at cesar.vinueza@dm.af.mil. Participants are accepted on a first-come first-served basis.



Airmen perform a variety of toning and strengthening exercises as the Fitness Boot Camp Class instructor, Cesar Vinueza, monitors their work and ensures everyone uses the proper form.

Sports Shorts

CGOC golf tournament

The D-M Company Grade Officers' Counsel hosts a base-wide golf tournament today at Blanchard Golf Course. Sign in for the tournament begins at 11 a.m. and the shotgun start is at 12:30 p.m. The cost of the four person scramble format tournament is \$25 for CGOC members and \$35 for all others. The entry fee includes 18 holes of golf, a cart, two mulligans, one red bomber and 12 inches of birdie string. There will be prizes for the top three teams, closest to the pin, longest drive and hole in one on all par threes. Participants also have the chance to win a 2005 Nissan Titan, trip for two on Southwest Airlines, set of Callaway Irons, electronics and more. Registration is open until all slots are filled. To register, contact 2nd Lt. William Chalmers at 603-8967.

AMARC's Night at the Park

The Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Center hosts a night at Tucson Electric Park Aug. 2 for the Tucson Sidewinder's game

against the New Orleans Zephyrs. The game starts at 7 p.m. and tickets cost \$2. AMARC will keep \$1 for each ticket sold and receives an additional 25 cents for each ticket used. There will also be a 50/50 raffle during the game if AMARC is able to sell 500 tickets. Contact Judy Rogers at 228-8234 or Roze Harper at 228-8567 for tickets.

Golf League seeks players

The Lady Niners is a nine hole golf league that meets to play golf every Wednesday morning. All skill levels are welcome. Those interested in joining the league should attend the Lady Niners registration social Aug. 24 at 9 a.m. in the Eagles Nest restaurant at Blanchard Golf Course. For more information, call Mary Pat Sullivan at 749-4812 or Maralee Wetzel at 790-8377.

D-M to LA Coliseum

The D-M to L.A. Coliseum Race is an incentive program designed to encourage the use of cardio equipment. The race course covers 500 miles from the D-M Fitness and Sports Center to the L.A. Coliseum. The program runs for three months. Participants need to sign up at the

fitness center and will record their actual mileage from workouts on stationary bikes, treadmills, ellipticals, stair climbers, tracks and more. Upon completion of the program, all participants who accumulate enough mileage to reach the L.A. Coliseum in the allotted time will receive a certificate and race t-shirt. For more information, call 228-0022.

Men's Soccer Team try-outs

All male active-duty personnel, reservists, guard and military dependents 18 years of age and older are invited to attend open try-outs for the 2005-2006 Davis-Monthan Air Force Base Men's Soccer Team. Try-outs are every Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m. on the football field behind the Auto Hobby Shop. For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Jason Bowersock at 228-4849 or Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Carpenter at 228-0006.

Yoga Classes

Yoga classes are once again being offered Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6 to 7 p.m. at Haeffner Fitness Center. The cost is \$2. For more information, call 228-3714.

Intramurals

Golf

The following scores are provided by Davis-Monthan's Blanchard Golf Course. All scores are current as of July 18. For more information regarding the standings, call the course at 228-3734.

Tuesday Standings

Team	W-L-T	GB	Points
372 TRS/DET 11	8-0-0	---	84 (49)
355 CES	6-1-0	1.5	72 (39)
355 MOS	6-1-0	1.5	54 (6)
355 CS #1	4-3-0	3.5	53 (8)
355 LRS	4-3-0	3.5	43 (-50)
563 MXS	2-4-1	5	29 (-21)
755 AMXS	1-4-2	5.5	35 (-25)
355 EMS	1-5-2	6	34 (-50)
355 SFS	1-5-1	6	22 (-60)
355 AMXS (AMARC)	0-7-0	7.5	7 (-43)

Wednesday Standings

Team	W-L-T	GB	Points
355 CMS	6-1-0	---	56 (38)
355 MED	5-1-1	.5	58 (-2)
12 AF	4-2-1	1.5	60 (35)
355 MXS	4-2-1	1.5	50 (-15)
755 OSS	1-0-6	2	43 (31)
355 EMS	2-2-3	2.5	48 (-3)
355 WING	2-3-2	3	35 (-39)
355 CPTS	2-5-0	4	33 (-39)
355 CS #2	1-5-1	4.5	6 (-146)
563 RQG	0-6-1	5.5	6 (-78)

Chapel Information

Services and activities offered by the D-M chapels are listed below. For more information on Jewish or Muslim services, Sunday School programs, Vacation Bible School, Bible studies; youth groups, and ministries, call 228-5411.

Worship schedule

Catholic

◆ The First Saturday Mass is the first Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. in Hope Chapel. The Mass is followed by a breakfast fellowship. For more information, call Jeff Morgan at 574-2567.

◆ Saturday Mass is at 5 p.m. at Desert Dove Chapel.

◆ Sunday Mass is at 9:45 a.m. at Desert Dove Chapel.

Protestant

◆ Contemporary Service is Sunday at 9:45 a.m. at Hope Chapel.

◆ Gospel Service is Sunday at 11:15 a.m. at Hope Chapel.

◆ Traditional Service is Sunday at 11:15 a.m. at Desert Dove Chapel.

Ground Floor

The Davis-Monthan Chapel sponsors Ground Floor, a place for Airmen and dorm residents to get together for games, fellowship and more. The Ground Floor is located on the first floor of Building 3500. Events vary daily and include in-depth studies that investigate Christianity, interdenominational discussion and Bible study, volleyball and basketball pick-up games, free guitar lessons, weekly worship events to address faith in the real world and more. Ground Floor also sponsors trips including skydiving, hiking, skiing, rafting and more; hangout events; and service projects. For more information, call Chaplain (Capt.) Randy Croft at 228-6213.

Education Services

On-line tuition assistance

Military members can now apply for their Tuition Assistance on-line. Simply register at the Air Force Portal at www.my.af.mil, which is a secured site. Once registered, click on the link for the Air Force Virtual Education Center Web site and apply for TA. The AFVEC Web site contains instructions for the on-line TA application process. For students having problems with the application process, two computers will be available in the Base Training and Education Services office for assistance from the staff. For more information, call Rafael Maldonado at 228-4815 or Norma White at 228-4249.

Registration for Troy University

Students can now register for Term 1 at Troy University, which begins Aug. 1. Current students can register online through Trojan Web Express. New students should submit applications immediately. On-site registration for all students will run through July 29. For more information, contact Carolyn Saunders or Shannon Bartlett at 748-2625 or 748-2162.

Registration at PCC

Students can now register for the fall semester

at Pima Community College. Classes begin Aug. 24. Students are reminded not to delay in applying for admission, taking assessment tests, attending orientation and registering for classes. In addition, students can take College Level Examination Placement tests Tuesday through Friday. Airmen can schedule to take CLEP test by visiting Building 3200, Room 224 or calling by 206-4866.

ACSC Seminar

Once there are three or more students, the Air Command and Staff College Seminar program will begin. Students meet weekly during the 11-month schedule established by ACSC. Eligibility is for major selects and above and federal civilian employees who are GS-11 and above. Enrollment is through the Base Training and Education Services office. For more information regarding this seminar, call Phil King at 228-3812, Norma White at 228-4249 or Rafael Maldonado at 228-4815.

Family Support Center

Veteran's Affairs Claims Assistance

A Veteran's Affairs representative will provide group appointments concerning veterans and disability benefits Monday at 1 p.m. in Building 3200, Room 243. For more information, call 228-5690.

Pre-separation Counseling

This class is mandatory for all Airmen getting ready to separate or retire from the Air Force and will acquaint departing members with services and agencies available to help them transition to the civilian workforce. The next class is at the Family Support Center Tuesday and Aug. 2 from 9 to 10 a.m. The class size is limited to 20 attendees and should be scheduled no later than 90 days before separating, retiring or, in special circumstances, as soon as possible. To sign up for this class, call 228-5690.

Right Start Base Orientation

Tuesday the Family Support Center will host Right Start for the last time at The Desert Oasis Enlisted Club. Beginning Aug. 9, Right Start will be held at the newly renovated Mirage Officers' Club. Free childcare is available but must be arranged ahead of time. For more information, contact Gregory Pleasant at 228-5690.

Smooth Move

The Family Support Center conducts a Smooth Move briefing Aug. 3 from 8 to 10:30 a.m. in Building 3210. This briefing helps individuals prepare for their next permanent change of station assignment. For reservations, call 228-5690.

Resume, Interview Workshops

These workshops covers the basic information to help individuals prepare for their next job. The workshops are Aug. 5 at the Family Support Center in Building 3210. The Resume Workshop is from 9 to 11 a.m. and the Interview Workshop is from noon to 2 p.m. To sign up, call the Family Support Center at 228-5690.

Happenings

Information Technology Expo

The Summer Information Technology Expo will be at the Desert Lightning Community Center Thursday. Exhibits will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is no fee to attend and all personnel are invited. Attendees can view and demo the latest in desktop, notebooks, information assurance, security products and services, simulation, communications, multi-media audio/visual, imaging products, test equipment and Datacom Products, office automation and more. To pre-register for the event, visit <http://www.fedpage.com>. While registration is not required to attend, all pre-registered attendees will be entered in a drawing for a chance to win an iPod Shuffle. Free refreshments and lunch items will be served. For more information, send an e-mail to dennis@fbcdh.com or call (800) 247-6353.

School, sports physicals

With school just around the corner, the 355th Medical Group offers limited school/sports physicals during regular clinic hours through September 2005. In addition, school physicals will also be available Aug. 20 by appointment only. Sports physicals are for healthy children only. There will be no medication refills and referrals will not be discussed. If a child has any chronic health issues, a separate appointment should be scheduled during regular clinic hours. It is important to go to the immunization clinic during the week prior to the appointment to ensure the child's immunizations are current. Parents should bring a copy of the immunization record to the appointment. To schedule a physical, call 228-2778.

Reduced Prices at ITT

Information, Tickets and Tours is now offering Disneyland tickets at a special reduced rate. For more information, or to get an updated price list, call ITT at 228-3700 or visit the services Web site at www.dmservicesonline.com. In addition to Disneyland tickets, ITT also has tickets available for California Adventure, Universal Studios and many other California and Florida theme parks and attractions. Customers can also purchase tickets of Tucson area attractions. Seaworld is currently offering free tickets to active-duty members and up to three direct dependents. For more information on the Seaworld Special, visit www.herosalute.com. The ITT Office is located in Building 4430. For more information or to sign up, call ITT at 228-3700.

Employment opportunities

The 355th Services Squadron is looking for motivated individuals to fill positions within the Information, Tickets and Tours and Outdoor Recreation offices. There are current openings in ticket sales, paintball and skeet ranges and equipment rental. Several lifeguard positions are also available. Applications and specific job information including pay, duties and responsibilities are available at www.dmservicesonline.com. Individuals may also pick up and drop off applications at Building 3510, Room 127. For more information, call the Services Human Resource Office at 228-2408.



Photo by Elaine Guinzy

Davis-Monthan Airmen participate in an X-Box Tournament at the Desert Lightning Community Center. The tournament featured the game Halo 2, a first-person shooter game.

Playing for fun, prizes

The Desert Lightning Community Center hosted an X-Box Tournament for anyone from the Davis-Monthan community who was 18 years and over with access to the Community Center. The tournament featured the game Halo 2 and more than \$600 in prizes were awarded to the winners. The first place win-

ner was Airman Edward Stengel, 355th Civil Engineer Squadron. Second place went to Senior Airman Ken Hoeflick, 355th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and third place went to Airman 1st Class Robert Smithers, 563rd Maintenance Squadron.

For more information regarding future X-Box Tournaments, call the Community Center at 228-3717.

Services Activities

Information for the Services Activities section courtesy of Chris Sweeney, 355th Services Squadron. For questions regarding this information, contact Mr. Sweeney at 228-7352.

Children's Summer Program

The Arts and Crafts Center offers daily craft classes Tuesday through Friday from 10:30 a.m. to noon for children ages 5 to 13 years. Crafts include planters, wreaths, sand castles, picture frames and more. Schedules are available at the Arts and Crafts Center. Reservations are recommended. Each class costs \$4.50 and includes all supplies. For more information regarding the Children's Summer Program, call 228-4385.

Framing Classes

The Davis-Monthan community is invited to learn how to how to cut and join their own frames, size and cut the mats and glass, and assemble a finished piece during the Arts and Craft Center's Framing Classes. The cost is \$20 and includes all supplies. The next classes are Thursday and Aug. 4 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 228-4385.

Bingo at Community Center

The Desert Lightning Community Center has Sunday Family Bingo once a month. Aug. 7

participants can enjoy an Ice Cream Social and Sept. 4 they can win a teddy bear. The Community Center also invites the D-M community to come out and enjoy their Tuesday Bingo games. Doors open at 5 p.m. for a social hour and the early bird games start at 6:30 p.m. There are Bingo games, cash prizes and jackpots from \$50 to \$1,000. For more information, call 228-3717.

Openings at CDCs

The Davis-Monthan Child Development Centers have openings for pre-toddlers ages 1 to 2 years, toddlers ages 2 to 3 years and preschool children ages 3 to 5 years. For more information, call 228-6463 or 228-6465.

National Kid's Day

All Davis-Monthan families are invited to the Desert Lightning Community Center Aug. 7 to celebrate National Kid's Day. The center has set aside a special day for the kids with family bingo games, an ice cream social, prizes and more. The bingo fun begins at 1 p.m. and ends at 3 p.m. During intermission, everyone can create their own ice cream sundae with a variety of toppings. Prizes will be awarded during bingo games. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Seating is on a first-come first-served basis. For more information regarding this event, call 228-3500.

Services Activities

Arts and Crafts Center.....228-4385
Tues., Wed. and Fri. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thurs. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sat. noon to 4 p.m.

Auto Skills Center.....228-3614
Tues. - Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Closed Sun. and Mon.

Blanchard Golf Course.....228-3734
Daily, sunrise to sunset

Bowling Center.....228-3461
Mon. - Thurs., 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Fri. 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Sat. noon to 11 p.m.

Cabanas.....747-3234
Mon. - Thurs. 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Fri. 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sat. and Sun. 4 to 8 p.m. No deliveries between 2 and 4 p.m. Mon. - Fri. All delivery orders must be called in no later than 30 minutes prior to close.

D-M Child Development Center.....228-3336
Mon. - Fri. 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Community Center.....228-3717
Mon. - Thurs. 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Fri. 7 a.m. to 1 a.m.; Sat. noon to 1 a.m.; Sun. noon to 6 p.m.; Weekday before a holiday is 7 a.m. to 1 a.m.; Weekend day before a holiday is noon to 1 a.m.; Holidays noon to 6 p.m.

Desert Inn Dining Facility.....228-5501
Mon. - Fri. 5:15 to 7:45 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. to 1 a.m.; Sat., Sun. and holidays 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m.

Desert Oasis Barber Shop.....748-8710
Desert Oasis Enlisted Club.....228-3100

Cashier Tues. - Fri. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Shockwave Lounge opens at 3 p.m. Wed. - Fri. Lunch Mon. - Fri. from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Caterer Tues. - Fri. by appointment only.

Eagles Nest Restaurant.....228-7066
Located at the Golf Course: Mon. - Fri. 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sat. and Sun. 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Family Child Care.....228-2201
Mon. - Fri. 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Finley Child Development Center.....228-6463
Mon. - Fri. 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Fitness and Sports Center.....228-0022
Mon. - Thurs. open 24 hours; Fri. 5 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Sat. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sun., holidays, UTE days 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Haefner Fitness Center.....228-3714
Mon. - Fri. 5:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Closed weekends, holidays and UTE days.

Inn on Davis-Monthan.....748-1500

Indoor Pool.....228-3759
Mon. - Fri. 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sat., Sun. and holidays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Information, Tickets & Travel.....228-3700
Mon. - Tues. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wed. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Library.....228-4381
Mon. - Thurs. 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Fri. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation and Equipment Rental.....228-3736
Mon. - Tues. and Thurs. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wed. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Outdoor Recreational Pool.....228-3759
Open Swim Mon. noon to 5 p.m., Tues. - Fri. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat., Sun. and holidays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Adult and Family Swim Mon. - Thurs. 5 to 8 p.m.; Lap Swim Mon. - Fri. 8 to 11 a.m.

Paintball Range.....228-3736
Sat. 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call to book weekday hours.

Stormy's Cyber Cafe.....228-3717
Mon. - Fri. 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Mirage Officers' Club.....228-3301
The Mirage will reopen July 8.

The Mirage Barber Shop.....748-8968
Veterinarian.....228-3529

Subject to change: Mon. - Fri. 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Youth Center.....228-8844
Tues. - Fri. 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sat. noon to 8 p.m.



